

1 REMARKS

2 Election of Single Disclosed Species

3 A restriction requirement has been imposed upon the Applicant under 35 U.S.C.
4 § 121. The Examiner has noted in the application three inventions, as follows: Invention
5 I for claims 1-14; Invention II for claims 15-21; and Invention III for claims 22-25.
6 Further, the Examiner has indicated 4 species, corresponding to respective Figs. 3, 4, 5
7 and 6. Accordingly, the Applicants are required to elect a single disclosed species for
8 prosecution on the merits in the event that no generic claim is finally held allowable.

9 The Examiner has further indicated that claim 1 is generic.

10 In response, the Applicants hereby elect Invention I, and the species
11 corresponding to Fig. 3, for prosecution. The Applicants contend that at all of claims
12 1-14 read on the elected species, and those claims are hereby elected for prosecution
13 under 35 U.S.C. 121. Specifically, the Applicants note that Fig. 3 depicts an apparatus
14 having seven springs. Claims 1, 2, 7, 9, 11-13 do not recite any number of springs, and
15 therefore Fig. 3 does not depict a limitation inconsistent with those claims. Further,
16 claim 3 (and thus inherently claims 4-6 which depend therefrom) recites, "at least three
17 springs." Fig. 3 does show "at least three springs." Further, as to claim 6, at least three
18 springs can be identified in Fig. 3 that are "spaced substantially equiangularly about a
19 central axis." Claim 8 includes the limitation of "at least three, and no more than nine,
20 springs", and therefore the seven springs of Fig. 3 fit within this limitation. Claim 10
21 recites "a plurality of springs", and claim 14 recites "a plurality of coil springs", both of
22 which are consistent with Fig. 3.

23 This election is being made without traverse.

24 Claims 15-25 have been cancelled, without prejudice.
25

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
0
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
0
1
2
3
4
5

2
3

4
5
6

8

9

1
2